

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q89687

Shoji AKATSUKA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/585,450

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 2865

Examiner: Gunnar J GISSEL

Filed: July 7, 2006

For: GAS SENSOR PRODUCTION METHOD AND GAS SENSOR

**STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please review and enter the following remarks summarizing the interview conducted on  
March 31, 2009:

**REMARKS**

An Examiner's Interview Summary Record (PTO-413) has not been received.

During the interview, the following was discussed:

1. **Brief description of exhibits or demonstration:** None
2. **Identification of claims discussed:** Claims 1 and 7
3. **Identification of art discussed:** Fujita (2003/0150254)
4. **Identification of principal proposed amendments:** Proposed amendment to claim 1 to recite that the at least one lead wire extends through the smaller diameter portion of the elastic seal member. Also, proposed amendment to independent claim 7 to recite that the elastic seal member includes a main body portion disposed inside the tubular metallic member

and a smaller diameter portion disposed at the more rear end side than the main body portion and smaller in outer diameter than the main body portion, and the space is provided between the rear end of the tubular metallic member and the smaller diameter portion.

**5. Brief Identification of principal arguments:** During the interview, independent claims 1 and 7 were discussed. Applicant's representative explained why claim 1 is not obvious in view of the applied combination of references. For example, the elastic seal member 10 of Fujita does not have a smaller diameter portion partly disposed inside the tubular metallic member and partly protruding therefrom, as required in claim 1 of the present application. Further, Fujita does not disclose the configuration wherein lead wire extend through the smaller diameter portion of the elastic seal member. Applicant's representative also briefly explained why claim 7 is also not obvious. Applicant's representative explained that the space being recited in claim 7 is represented by reference "S" as shown in figures of the present application.

**6. Indication of other pertinent matters discussed:** The Examiner agreed that the figures of Fujita show the entire smaller diameter portion protruding outward from a rear end of the tubular metallic member. The Examiner, however, considered that claim 1 as currently presented may be interpreted to mean any portion of the smaller diameter portion protruding outward, and that claim 1 would therefore include the situation where the entire smaller diameter portion protrudes outward, as disclosed in Fujita.

**7. Results of Interview:** Applicant's representative will submit a responsive Amendment.

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It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

**It is believed that no petition or fee is required.** However, if the USPTO deems otherwise, Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. I9-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

/Yan Lan/

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**23373**

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Date: April 28, 2009